



**NORTH COAST UNIFIED AIR QUALITY  
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## Wildfire Smoke Public Service Announcement

Smoke, haze, and degraded air quality conditions continue throughout Humboldt, Del Norte and Trinity Counties due to the numerous fires in the Six Rivers and Shasta-Trinity National Forest as well as State Responsibility Areas. A high pressure system is building over the area this weekend. This will lead to diminished smoke dispersion over much of northern California.



Smoke generated by the wildfires is expected to linger due to a stronger inversion and East winds forecast for inland areas. As the day heats up the smoke will mix down to the surface in many locations, although not quite as widespread as last week. Smoke inland may again become layered overnight Saturday into Sunday morning, with clearing in some valleys and smokier in others. Smoke inland can then be expected to mix down to the surface again mid-day Sunday with a gradual clearing pattern during the afternoon and evening hours. Despite observable haze, current monitor results show particulate matter concentrations in the *Good to Moderate* range in the greater Humboldt Bay and Eureka areas. Today and Sunday morning will see an increase in smoke along the coast due to an easterly wind and a deep marine layer.



Particulate Matter (PM2.5) concentrations are being monitored at the following locations: Crescent City, Gasquet, Orleans, Weitchpec, Hoopa, Willow Creek, Burnt Ranch, Weaverville, Hayfork, Hyampom, Mad River, Eureka, and Garberville. An *Unhealthy Advisory* and *Hazardous Alert* has been issued for several communities near the fires (see [www.ncuagmd.org](http://www.ncuagmd.org)).



These are the main fires of interest that are generating smoke:

**Mad River Complex** (Humboldt/Trinity County)  
**Humboldt Complex** (Humboldt County)  
**Route Complex** (Humboldt County)  
**Nickowitz Fire** (Humboldt/Del Norte County)  
**Horse Fire** (Humboldt County)  
**Gasquet Complex** (Del Norte County)  
**South Complex** (Hyampom (Trinity County)  
**River Complex** (Humboldt/Trinity County)  
**Fork Complex** (Trinity County)  
**Rocky Fire** – Lower Lake (Lake County)



Fire Information can be found at [www.inciweb.nwcg.gov](http://www.inciweb.nwcg.gov).

## Health Information for Smoke Impacts

Concentrations of smoke may vary depending upon location, weather, and distance from the fire. Smoke from wildfires and structure fires contain harmful chemicals that can affect your health. Smoke can cause eye and throat irritation, coughing, and difficulty breathing. People who are at greatest risk of experiencing symptoms due to smoke include: those with respiratory disease (such as asthma), those with heart disease, young children, and older adults.

These sensitive populations should stay indoors and avoid prolonged activity. All others should limit prolonged or heavy activity and time spent outdoors. Even healthy adults can be affected by smoke. Seek medical help if you have symptoms that worsen or become severe.

If you can see, taste, or feel smoke, contact your local health department and/or primary healthcare provider. This is especially important if you have health concerns, are elderly, are pregnant, or have a child in your care.

Follow these general precautions to protect your health during a smoke event:

- Minimize or stop outdoor activities, especially exercise
- Stay indoors with windows and doors closed as much as possible
- Do not run fans that bring smoky outdoor air inside – examples include swamp coolers, whole-house fans, and fresh air ventilation systems
- Run your air-conditioner only if it does not bring smoke in from the outdoors. Change the standard air conditioner filter to a medium or high efficiency filter. If available, use the “re-circulate” or “recycle” setting on the unit
- Do not smoke, fry food, or do other things that will create indoor air pollution

If you have lung disease (including asthma) or heart disease, closely monitor your health and contact your doctor if you have symptoms that worsen.

Consider leaving the area until smoke conditions improve if you have repeated coughing, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, wheezing, chest tightness or pain, palpitations, nausea, unusual fatigue, lightheadedness.

**For 24-hour Air Quality Advisory Information, call toll-free at  
1-866-BURN-DAY (1-866-287-6329).**

**For further information, visit the District’s website at  
[www.ncuagmd.org](http://www.ncuagmd.org)**

